

STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Zoom Conference Call

Board members present: Sharon Davis, Lynn Gilliard, Jim Martin, Drew Reisinger, Karen Feeney, and Sarah Koonts

Staff present: Adrienne Berney, Christine Botta, Brooke Csuka. Anne Ackerson, strategic planning consultant, also joined.

I. Welcome and introductions

Brooke Csuka joined State Archives' staff in May and has undertaken projects related to TAP training.

II. Strategic Plan, 2022-2025

Anne Ackerson recommends meeting annually to review and revise the plan. She urged considering the plan as a living document, a road map rather than set-in-stone directives. There may be regular needs to change the route and annual reviews enable that process.

Anne also recommended that the mission and vision statements be approved separately from the rest of the plan, since they should persist beyond the plan's period. Drew and Karen expressed support for both statements.

Sarah reviewed the goals and strategies sections. Brooke raised a question about the possible need for a SHRAB logo as something she and Adrienne had discussed while planning training events. Adrienne noted that the NHPRC, which is an analogous commission on the federal level, uses the National Archives' logo graphic with its name below and suggested that could be a model for a simple SHRAB logo, using the Archives dogwood symbol. Sarah agreed that with Brooke's graphic design skills, the logo idea is something we could work on.

Discussion about the current Indian Affairs Commission and how it might relate to the proposed Native American Heritage Commission. Anne asked whether the strategic plan should reflect the current commission. Sarah suggested that as a possibility for a future revision of the plan. The department has recently undertaken an inventory of its activities related to native communities and that could inform future versions of the SHRAB work plan.

Drew moved to approve the mission and vision statements; Lynn seconded. Motion carried.

Drew moved to approve the current version of the strategic plan (with Jim's edits); Jim seconded. Motion carried.

III. Implementation Plan

Sarah noted that the next step is a 12-18-month implementation plan. The timing works well with the transition to a new fiscal year, as employees need to create annual work plans. Adrienne noted that the work laid out in the current and proposed SHRAB grants can form a basis for the implementation plan, with board meetings and other activities added in.

IV. Discussion of grant projects

Adrienne gave an update on the current grant project—"Preserving and Sharing Community Histories Online." Out of the sixteen institutions that applied for TAP consultations, six were community college archives. Although only two were selected for the consultation, all six applications shared little or no policy development and little or no collections promotional activities. Brooke has taken the lead on working with board members of the NC Community College Archives Association to plan a training on each topic and scheduled them for August 12 & 19. Erin Lawrimore, one of SHRAB's board members will be helping out with each, along with some other community college leaders who can guide peers. The six TAP recipients in this cycle (2 community college archives, 3 local history museums, and one community organization archive) have all received at least one round of virtual consultations and Erin has visited three of them in person. Adrienne is working on ordering supplies and will deliver those in person—hopefully, this summer, now that travel can resume.

Adrienne summarized aspects of the grant proposal that staff submitted to NHPRC earlier this month. The program theme is "When Are We US?" to help communities connect to the America250 commemoration. SHRAB will provide five regional trainings that members help host. Grant funds will allow for travel and the creation of resources that can help communities develop local programs. In addition, grant funds would allow SHRAB to begin offering professional development grants for ten practitioners each year to receive funds for training and five organizations each year to receive TAP consultations.

V. Fall meeting

Sarah discussed the need for SHRAB to start following a public meeting protocol and post the dates and agenda for the fall meeting in advance. She asked if members knew of any times to avoid with other professional conferences or other potential conflicts. Sharon noted that the Registers of Deeds conference is in Pine Hurst in September. Sarah will look at the first two weeks in October for a fall meeting date.

VI. Pending business and announcements

Sarah reminded members of a previous effort to advocate for increased NHPRC funding through a "Dear Colleague" letter in the Senate. Humanities supporters were contacting Senators asking them to sign on to the letter. She received a response from Senator Tillis' office but not Senator Burr's. She reported that the Biden budget calls for an increase to the National Archives budget, enough to push it close to its authorized amount. NEH & IMLS received a small boost in that budget, primarily for specific museum programs.

The department requested funds from the Governor's COVID relief/ American Rescue Plan to "Re-Start History." Proposed funds would allow re-grants for local museums and sites that lost visitation during pandemic closures. So far, that provision has not been included in the Senate budget.

VI. Adjournment